IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

1. Amend paragraph [0003] as follows:

An ultrasonic motor generally has a construction such as that described in Patent Reference 1, below. Hereafter, this construction is explained, with reference to the rough cross-sectional diagram shown in FIG. 7. In this example, stator 52 and rotor 53 are constructed such as to be pressurized by spring 54 and appressed. The surface of stator 52 which is in contact with rotor 53 is formed as a pectinate, and piezoelectric ceramic 51 is provided on the surface on the opposite side thereof. In a construction as such, a traveling wave is generated in piezoelectric ceramic 51 when an ultrasonic wave is impressed thereto, and this traveling wave is transmitted to rotor 53 via the pectinate surface and the rotor 53 rotates in the direction of the traveling wave (straight forward movement in the case of a linear motor). Although, the zoom lens of a camera is common as a use of the ultrasonic motor, the rotor 53 is rotationally-driven at a comparatively high speed (for example, 40 rpm) when utilized for such uses.

2. Amend paragraphs [0004] and [0005] as follows:

~~Incidentally, generally, in three-dimensional ultrasonic diagnostic devices, by rotating an arc-shaped sonic element in a direction orthogonal to the arc direction within an ultrasonic probe and scanning, a three-dimensional image in the arc direction of the sonic element, the scanning direction due to rotation, and the depth direction, can be obtained.~~ In conventional three-dimensional ultrasonic diagnostic devices, generally, a three-dimensional image with three directions of the arc direction of a sonic element, the rotational scanning direction and the depth direction are obtained by performing scanning with the arc-shaped sonic element rotated in a direction perpendicular to the arc direction. In addition, although, in recent years, the ultrasonic motor has been utilized as a driving means for rotating sonic elements, the rotor 53 is rotationally-driven at a comparatively low speed (for example, 10 rpm or less) when utilized for such uses.

~~However, if the ultrasonic motor is driven for a long period of time at a comparatively low speed, problems occur in that, roughness occurs on the pectinate surface of stator 52, on the side in contact with rotor 53, and in addition, a stable operation can no longer be attained because the fine particles of this stator 52 are transferred to the contact surface of the~~

~~rotor 53, and life is shortened.~~ However, when such a conventional ultrasonic motor is driven for a long period of time at a relatively low speed, there occur problems such that roughness occurs on the surface of the pectinate stator 52 at the side which is in contact with the rotor 53, and also, fine particles of the stator 52 are transferred to the contact surface of the rotor 53 so that stable operation will not be obtained, resulting in a short life. Furthermore, in an ultrasonic diagnostic device utilizing this ultrasonic motor, a three-dimensional image cannot be obtained because stable operation can no longer be attained.

3. Amend paragraph [0015] as follows:

In addition, in order to achieve the foregoing objects, the present invention, in an ultrasonic diagnostic device for obtaining three-dimensional images by scanning sonic elements by driving an ultrasonic motor, ~~has a construction,~~ has a construction, wherein

4. Amend paragraph [0041] as follows:

Next, a second embodiment is described with reference to FIG. 4. In the second embodiment, under the premise that the user is not performing a diagnosis, treatment is performed when the

screensaver function of monitor 13 is in operation. In FIG. 4, first, the power SW (unillustrated) of the ultrasonic diagnostic device main unit 10 is turned ON (step S1); furthermore, when 3D mode SW (unillustrated) is turned ON (Y in step S2), ultrasonic diagnosis in 3D mode begins, ultrasonic motor 3 is ON, and the timer starts (step S3). Next, whether or not the screensaver has been turned ON is determined (step S4a), and if it is not ON, ultrasonic diagnosis in 3D mode is continued (step S4a → S3); on the other hand, if the screensaver is turned ON, it is determined whether or not the predetermined period of time elapsed on the timer (step S4a → S6). Then, if the predetermined period of time has elapsed, treatment is performed (step S7), the timer is reset (step ~~8~~ S8), and subsequently, the processing returns to step S4a. This predetermined period of time can be determined based on experiments or can be set arbitrarily by the user, within a range which does not affect the diagnostic operation, by providing a setting input means.

5. Amend paragraph [0043] as follows:

Next, a third embodiment is described with reference to FIG. 5. In the third embodiment, treatment is performed immediately after the user has turned the power SW ON for the first time within one day. In FIG. 5, first, when the power SW

(unillustrated) of the ultrasonic diagnostic device main unit 10 is turned ON (Y in step ~~11~~ S11), it is determined whether or not the previous power SW OFF was today, or in other words, whether or not it was yesterday or before (step S12). Then, if the previous power SW OFF was yesterday or before, it is determined whether or not treatment was previously performed (step S12 → S13), and if it was not performed, treatment is performed (step S13 → S14). The determination step of step S13 can be omitted, and treatment can be performed unconditionally when the user has turned the power SW ON for the first time within one day.